

**Post Card Instructions.** You are going to use Photoshop to create a post card. Your postcard will look something like the one below (of course with a location of your own choosing).



1. Use your favorite search engine to find 4-5 photos you will use for your post card. The image above contains 5 images (4 in the title and the main image). Save the images to a folder where you can find them.
2. Open Photoshop and create a new document. Use the photo preset and choose the landscape 4 x 6" photo. Change the resolution to at least 150.
3. Choose the Text Tool and choose a fat font (Rockwell Extra Bold works well if you have it).
4. Type the name of your location near the top of the canvas. Leave room for at least one symbol (like the heart above). The symbol can go on either side (or both sides) of the name. Adjust the font size to a size that will take up the right amount of space. Longer names will require a smaller font. If your font color is white and your background is white, you may want to change the font color so you can see it.
5. You can use the transform tool (CTRL+T) to modify the appearance of the place name making it taller or wider if you want.
6. Use the Custom Shape tool and find a shape you want to use. If you don't have a large selection of Custom shapes, use the gear icon in the custom shape pulldown menu to load all the shapes (All Shapes).
7. Draw your shape(s) and use the move tool (V) to position your place name and the custom shape how you want them.

8. Below the layers panel, click on the "Create a new Group" icon (folder) to create a new group. Drag the Shape layer and the text layer into the Group folder. Click on the eyeball next to the folder to hide the text and symbol for now.
9. Use the File=>Place menu to insert your smaller images on your canvas (or copy and paste them.) Transform them so they are lined up in the top 1.5" of the canvas. You can turn the text group on and off to get the right size and to make sure they look how you want. (ie. no seams). You can also drag the text group above the images if it helps, but you will have to have it below the images when you are done for the clipping mask effect.
10. When you are happy with the placement, select all of the images (Shift click on each one) and right click and merge them into one layer.
11. Move the text/shape group **above** the merged image layer. It should not be put in the group.
12. Hold down the Alt key and move your mouse slowly from the merged image layer toward the text/shape group. Don't click and drag. If you do it right, you will see a checkbox with an arrow pointing downward appear. Click the left mouse button when this happens. This will create a clipping path and it will appear that your text and shape are filled with the images below.
13. Place your main image on the canvas. Transform it so it fills the lower  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the canvas.
14. Drag out a rectangle that starts below the letters of your place name and covers the rest of the canvas. IT should be the color you want your border to be.
15. Right click on your rectangle layer to rasterize it.
16. Use the rectangular marquee tool (M) to drag out the area where you want your picture to show through. You can hold down the space bar while dragging to move the rectangle around.
17. Hit the Delete key to reveal the photo underneath.
18. Double click on your group layer (folder) to add a style to the layer. Use bevel/emboss, inner/outer glow, drop shadows and especially the stroke features. **Don't use** the overlays as those will not allow your picture to show through.
19. Play around with any other effects you want to make your postcard look good.
20. Print your post card and turn it in.
21. Save your project file and call it postcard.